

NO. 3042.

WEATHER—FAIR.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1915.

ONE CENT In Washington and Points Suburban
There. ELSEWHERE TWO CENTS.

U. S. Joins Other Neutrals to Halt Shipping Menace

Ambassador Gerard Informally Announces that Note Is on Way to Berlin Protesting Against Establishment of "War Zone" Around Great Britain and Germans' Announced Intention to Fire on Ships Flying Neutral Flags—Sweden, Norway and Denmark Also Will Make Representations to the Kaiser, Copenhagen Dispatch States—No Word Given Out Here Regarding Intentions of the State Department.

VEILED THREATS OF PERIL TO NEUTRAL VESSELS CAUSE WORRY IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Feb. 7.—The American Ambassador has informally announced in Berlin that an official protest against the German note establishing a German blockade which will endanger neutral shipping is coming from Washington, according to a dispatch to the Exchange Telegram Company from Copenhagen.

The dispatch adds that the Swedish, Norwegian, and Danish governments also are making representations to Berlin.

In official quarters there was much interest manifested in the memorandum of the German admiralty in explanation of the "war zone."

From this document it was concluded that the new German program is aimed much more at the neutral countries contiguous to Germany than at the United States. The German intentions now are regarded largely as land, Sweden, Norway, Denmark.

An attempt to retaliate against Holland and Italy for the agreements they have entered into with the British government for the prohibition of the exportation of contraband of war from their territories into Germany. There is little doubt but that the Germans intended to get supplies through the neutral countries, but British diplomacy, supported by the British fleet, has made this impossible. The German hint at possible destruction of neutral shipping is regarded as the Kaiser's reply to the British move.

May Continue Trade.

The German program makes possible continued trade with the neutral countries from the United States, and it is believed in some quarters that pressure will be renewed upon these neutrals to revoke the embargoes imposed at the behest of Great Britain. In British quarters there seems to be confidence that the existing arrangements will not be changed.

First, importance still is given here to the question of what the German submarines may do under the new program. There is no doubt that even proof that British ships are using American flags will fall to accord any excuse to the Germans for destruction of American ships, or British vessels with American passengers on board, which the United States government can accept.

Veiled Threats Worried.

While it is admitted that a submarine has no facilities for sending searching parties aboard merchantmen encountered on the high seas, it was pointed out here yesterday that there is no reason why a submarine need not summon the vessel in question to send boats to her. The submarines have, of course, no deck boats, nor any men to spare for boarding parties. They can, however, when on the surface, signal to merchantmen and command them to send boats to the submarine with proof of the vessel's identity.

While in the case of cruisers, this practice is not permitted, it is not doubted that it would be regarded as permissible in the case of submarines. Persons here were supposedly informed as to the German admiralty's intentions state that this practice will be followed, and that examinations will be made to determine the character of vessels encountered in British waters.

This does not square, however, with the veiled threats contained in the official announcements, which state that neutral vessels may become victims of attacks intended for enemy vessels. It is certain that the United States will not accept any statement that destruction was accidental and unavoidable in case an American vessel is thus sent to the bottom.

GERMAN TRENCHES FLOODED.

Heavy Rains in West Flanders Force Troops from Ditches.

Boulogne, Feb. 7.—The German lines once more are menaced by inundations in western Flanders. Already their trenches are invaded by water at several points in the region of Dixmude. At the end of the series of heavy rain and hailstorms the water flooded out great numbers of the infantrymen and upset several of the enemy's operations.

In Southeastern Belgium the troop movements and the passing of large food and ammunition convoys seem to indicate that the Germans will not be long in resuming the offensive.

Kills Himself in Mission.

Thomas Holland, thirty-three years old, living at 1433 D street northeast, was found dead in a room at Central Union Mission yesterday morning. A certificate of death by poison, with suicidal intent, was issued by the coroner's office. Holland left a letter, in which he declared he had no desire to live longer. He had been at the mission but one night.

KAISER IN TRENCHES; VISITS LANDWEHR TROOPS

Berlin, Feb. 7.—It is announced officially at headquarters of the general staff that Emperor Wilhelm yesterday visited the Silesian Landwehr in their trenches near Gressen, east of Wloclaw.

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CRISIS IN SHIP BILL COMBAT IS EXPECTED TODAY

Events May Determine Whether Wilson Is to Fight On or Yield.

GATHER CAMPAIGN DATA

Customs Collectors Furnish Reports on Exports Now Awaiting Shipment.

G. O. P. DEMANDS ABANDONMENT

Willing to Expedite Other Legislation if Sidetracking of Marine Measure Is Promised.

Developments are expected today that should clear up the situation in the Senate with respect to the ship-purchase bill and make it clear whether there is to be an extra session. A conference between the President and administration leaders in the Senate should settle the question of whether the President is prepared to surrender the ship-purchase bill or desires that it be pressed upon the Senate with the certainty that it will provoke an extra session.

There are twenty-one and a half working days remaining of the present Congress. It is time enough, in the judgment of the leaders on both sides, to pass the necessary supply bills and other routine matters. This would avoid an extra session.

The Republican leaders are prepared to co-operate with the Democrats to expedite legislation and prevent the extra session if the ship-purchase bill is to be side-tracked. The President is being advised by some of his leaders that the fight for the ship bill may be kept up for two weeks, longer and still afford time enough to pass the annual appropriation bill.

Republicans Demand Action.

But the Republicans are in no mood to "bite with the situation." They want assurances that the ship bill is to be laid aside in good faith if the extra session is to be spared to the administration. The Republicans feel that the administration has more to lose by forcing an extra session than the Republicans have, so far as the political results are concerned.

If the President determines to keep up the fight, the Republicans are prepared to resist and to debate the bill indefinitely. Furthermore, they will object to rushing important appropriation bills through the Senate at the last minute. Undoubtedly the question of an extra session will hinge upon the President's advice to continuing the fight. It is known that the President is not taking his philosophical defeat in the ship bill matter.

Officials Leant "Influence."

So accurate a portrayal of the workings of the civil service has been produced by Eugene Nowland, manager of the Edison Company, that officials of the civil service are delighted and have lent their "influence" where it was needed to procure a picture of some shy dignitary in the public service.

Officials of the civil service went to Secretary Tumulty and arranged for President Wilson's appearance on the platform of grain to Baltimore for the transportation across or along the Atlantic nearly \$5,000,000 worth of cotton, several hundreds of carloads of lumber, \$2,000,000 worth of grain and quantities of other materials.

Congestion in New York.

Collector Dudley Field Malone, at New York, wired that investigation disclosed unusual congestion, particularly with respect to grain. There is little normal quantity of grain in New York, he said, because of the scarcity of ships.

There is an embargo against the transportation of grain to Baltimore by the Pennsylvania Railroad, Collector William P. Ryan telegraphed. There are 700 carloads of general export freight on hand, he said.

The congestion is particularly in products destined for Europe, the collectors said. Malone and Ryan advised that coastwise trading conditions are normal. Mr. Ryan said that there is no lack of steamship facilities for handling general export merchandise which is cared for by regular lines, but that there does exist a shortage of grain carrying vessels.

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BANDITS LOSE NERVE AND RUN FROM PREY

Four Masked Men Board "Millionaires' Special" on Way to Palm Beach, Start to Rob Passengers, Become Afraid and Leap from Train.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Palm Beach, Fla., Feb. 7.—Four masked bandits climbed on to the observation platform of the Palm Beach limited, south-bound, while the train was taking water at Stuart, drew revolvers on the passengers and then, apparently losing their nerve, the train stopped and escaped without firing a shot or robbing any of the passengers.

The Palm Beach limited is known as the "millionaires' special" because it is one of the most luxurious in the service and is taken by New York millionaires on their winter journeyings to Palm Beach and other Southern points.

A brakeman locked the forward door of the car the moment the alarm was given, but the bandits forced him to open it and sent all the women ahead, saying they wanted nothing from them.

JUMP FROM MOVING TRAIN.

Donald Larness, an Atlanta publisher, and his seven-year-old son, Augustus; P. W. Kirtland, freight traffic manager, and E. P. Boger, general freight agent of the Florida East Coast Railroad Company were on the rear platform as the men swung aboard while the train was getting under way.

Forcing these passengers ahead of them into the car the would-be robbers pulled revolvers and shouted for all passengers to hold up their hands.

Women, forced to enter a forward car, gave the alarm which was passed to the engineer and the train was stopped.

Hearing the grinding of the brakes, the robbers, who then were preparing to go through the pockets of the men passengers, took fright and leaped from the train. Men supposed to be the bandits have been arrested in Stuart and are awaiting identification.

WILSON WILL ACT FOR FILMS, MAYBE

Gossip Has It President Has Consented to Join Ranks of "Movie" Stars.

PLAY IS READY FOR HIM

Smiling and Shaking Hands, He Will Appear on Scene as Aid to Little Blind God.

President Wilson has consented to join the ranks of the "movie" actors, according to a story bruited about Washington last night, and will enact a role before the camera's eye on the first day that brings a bit of sunshine and a lull in affairs of state.

Mr. Wilson would have played his part on Saturday, the story is told, but sunshine was too scarce. Maybe he will act today; if not today, tomorrow or next day, perhaps. The camera man has plenty of time, a long expense account, and is stopping at the Hotel Powhatan, so he doesn't care much how long he waits for the star of the play.

The play revolves about a young man who comes to Washington to enter government employ via civil service. In his wanderings this venturesome Y. M. meets a young woman already in the government employ. Whether it is love at first sight or mutual sympathy is not explained in the scenario, but the two make a pair and wander about together.

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MOODY CONVERTS RECALL DIM PAST

In Presence of Evangelist's Son, They Relive Revival Scenes.

FADED OLD BOOKS USED

Coverless Volumes Bearing Signature of Great Preacher Wept Over at Mass Meeting Yesterday.

Dwight Lyman Moody and his memorable evangelistic services in Washington twenty-one years ago were recalled from dim memories by hundreds of his converts at a mass meeting in First Congregational Church yesterday and revived once more in the presence of his son, William R. Moody, who shouldered the work his father dropped when death claimed him sixteen years ago.

It was just such a day as yesterday—twenty-one years ago—that Dwight Moody started revival services in Convention hall that lasted for a month and were written indelibly in the memory of those who accepted Christianity as Mr. Moody offered it. Many thousands attended those meetings and a choir of 2,000, led by Percy Foster, gave the song services.

Practically every one in the church had heard Dwight Moody preach and a large percentage had been converted by him. They listened to every word of tribute spoken by Secretary of State Bryan who called Dwight Moody "the greatest preacher of his time."

William R. Moody told of the life of his father, and when the son finished many left the pews, pressed forward and wept as they shook hands with him. Some of the women carried time-worn song books, the "old Sankey book," they called it—without covers, yellow with age and torn, but inscribed with the signature of Dwight Moody.

These were the same books used by the choir twenty-one years ago. One woman left the choir loft and clasping the young Mr. Moody by the hand said in broken voice:

"I knew your father well. My father, mother, brother and I sang in his choir at Convention Hall. Father, mother and brother are dead now, but I sang in his choir today, and I brought with me their tickets." She displayed four blue tickets which admitted a singer to the choir session twenty-one years ago.

Another woman said: "Twenty-one years ago your father saved a member of my family whom he had given up for lost. Mr. Moody won him to Christianity and the man has been a Christian ever since."

How Moody Left Boston.

One of the anecdotes told by the son was an account of how Mr. Moody left Boston, a young man, became a commercial traveler in Chicago and lived in "Mother" Phillips' boarding house. Levi Z. Letter and Marshall Field, then clerks in Potter Palmer's store and later millionaires, lived in the same boarding house and chummed with Dwight Moody.

All were intent on fortune making, but Moody gave up quest for gold and began teaching a Sunday school. "The result of his work is shown today," said the son, "in two schools, one for girls at Northfield, Mass., and one for boys at Mount Hermon, a few miles away. These schools live as a monument to my father's work for Christianity."

The meeting was under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. William Knowles Cooper, general secretary of the Y. M. C. A., presided and delivered an address introducing Secretary of State Bryan.

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BRITISH JUSTIFY USE OF NEUTRAL FLAGS BY SHIPS

Cite Law in Lusitania Case. Ordered U. S. Flag Run Up.

U. S. MAY NOT PROTEST

Minor Officials Think State Department Will Say Nothing of the Incident.

GERMAN EMBASSY DELIGHTED

Members Argue This Proves Orders Have Been Issued to Change Banners When Circumstances Demand It.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Feb. 7.—The official press bureau gave out a statement made by the British foreign office in reply to the German blockade threat. The statement justifies the use of a neutral flag by merchant ships to escape capture by belligerents under certain limitations. It cites the law on the subject and concludes:

"By the rules of interest law, the customs of war and the dictates of humanity, it is obligatory upon a belligerent to ascertain the character of a merchant vessel and its cargo before making a capture. To destroy a ship with its noncombatant crew and cargo, as Germany announced her intention of doing, is an act of piracy."

Liverpool, Feb. 7.—It was learned here tonight that the Lusitania hoisted the American flag only after it had received instructions to do so from the British admiralty. The instructions were received by wireless while the Lusitania was off the Irish coast.

"Nothing will be done today."

No Protest May Be Made.

Secretary Bryan in this way yesterday summed up the proceedings and discussions at the State Department in reference to the use of the American flag by the British liner Lusitania and the decree of Germany, establishing a war zone with its suggestion that American vessels might be blown up without intention, by German submarines or cruisers.

Early in the day the minor officials became imbued with the idea that no protest would be lodged at the British foreign office because of the Lusitania incident. There was much private comment on the fact that Col. E. M. House, an intimate friend of the President, and his special emissary, Miss Nona McAdoo, daughter of the Secretary of the Treasury, and 200 less distinguished Americans were on board.

The suggestion was made that the use of the American flag by Great Britain actually may have saved the Lusitania from destruction. If such should prove to be the case, officials thought, it would be an ungracious thing for the United States to protest the use of the flag.

Germans Are Delighted.

The satisfaction of German officials over the incident is unconcealed. They regard the "misuse" of the American flag as proving the German contention that some kind of order went out to shipmasters of the United Kingdom with reference to a change of flag "under stress of circumstances." Therefore, they say, the decree creating a war zone because of the illegal use of neutral flags has been justified.

At the British Embassy the fact that the Lusitania hoisted the American flag was not regarded as extraordinary or indefensible in times of war. These officials were not willing to say that there was any specific international law which could be applied, but they declared that "such actions were of frequent occurrence," and similar incidents were reported in English books on maritime law. The embassy says that it does not know anything officially on the subject.

One of the high American officials indicated that no cause of quarrel would be made with Great Britain because of the Lusitania's change of flag. He said, substantially, that there would scarcely be much justification for a protest to Great Britain as to this incident when no protest had yet been filed against the decree of Germany creating the war zone and its implied threat against even American vessels.

REPULSE ATTACKS ON CANAL.

British Drive Back Turks, Who Suffer Heavy Losses.

London, Feb. 7.—The official press bureau today gave out the following official report of Egyptian operations, dated at Cairo, February 6:

"Two prisoners of the Seventy-first Turkish Regiment, captured at Toussoum, stated that the Turkish attack on the canal bank at Toussoum was met by a very hot and well-aimed fire, resulting in great casualties. The Turks were surrounded by the British troops from beginning, hemmed in and taken prisoners. The commandant and several other officers were wounded.

The second half of the company which attacked at another point on the canal suffered severe casualties, only three men being left. These were captured by Indian troops. A German major was shot during the fight near Serapeum and on his body there was found a white flag in a specially designed khaki waist."

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Russians Surging Forward, Threaten Germans' Supplies

Rapid Advance of Czar's Legions West of Warsaw Menaces Teuton Communications with Base at Thom—Terrific Battle Still Rages for Control of the Initiative in the Eastern Theater of War—Steady Gains Are Claimed by Petrograd on All Fronts—Muscovite Invasion of East Prussia Gathers Force—Correspondent Sends Vivid Word Picture of Battle for Possession of Romin, Important Stronghold Near Borzomow.

SWEEPING SUCCESSES AGAINST AUSTRIANS IN CARPATHIANS CLAIMED BY PETROGRAD

By FREDERICK REYNOLDS.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

Petrograd, Feb. 7.—The immense struggle for the control of the initiative in the eastern campaign is increasing in intensity.

Results of the terrible fighting for the key positions in Central Poland encourage the belief that the Russian operations now are taking a better turn than at any time since the first German invasion was rolled back from Ivangorod at the end of October.

The Russian army is putting gigantic energy into the effort to change the character of the trial of strength and gain ground, besides conquering the men on its front.

The victory of Friday north of the junction of the Bzura and the Vistula has a value far beyond the immediate ground gained. The infantry moved upon Kamion in a succession of determined rushes and improvised adequate cover between the town and the bank of the Vistula before to o'clock in the morning.

GERMANS LOSE FORTIFIED POST

Driven from Strong Position in Brickyard, Near Gurnchy by British.

FRENCH TRENCH TAKEN

Berlin Reports Successful Advance in Ypres Region—Assaults on Neuport Fail.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Feb. 7.—The score of claims to success in the fighting on the western front was even today. Berlin reported the capture of a French trench and two machine guns to the southeast of Ypres, and the Paris official statement issued in the afternoon told of the taking by the British of a fortified position near Guinchy.

Tonight's communique from Paris states that infantry activity by the Germans before Neuport, in Belgium, has been renewed, but without success. Several attacks directed against the allies' positions on this front were repulsed.

German artillery has renewed the bombardment of the French positions defending Soissons.

Probably the most important of the scattered engagements reported is that in which the British troops again distinguished themselves in the La Bassée area.

Battle in Brickyard.

The battle took place near Guinchy, on the highway between Bethune and La Bassée, a section where up to a week ago there has been furious fighting, with the Germans as the aggressors.

The Kaiser's forces had established themselves strongly in a brickyard two-thirds of a mile to the eastward of Guinchy. Mounds of brick shielded their machine guns and gave their infantry what appeared to be a perfect shelter. But the British succeeded in bombarding the ground with their heavy field guns, after which the infantry charged and drove the Germans back to their second line of works.

An attempt by the German forces to resume the aggressive north of Beaussart, in the Champagne region, was thwarted by the French, whose rifle fire scattered the advancing invaders.

HALT CALLED ON WHEAT.

Release of Argentine Supply Likely to Keep Price Down.

Chicago, Feb. 7.—While there is no essential change in the wheat market as viewed impartially, a halt has been called in the upward trend of